
The 2013 Annual Report

of the City of Columbus . Police Department

City of Columbus





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This Annual Report is prepared for the citizens of the City of Columbus and the following 2013 public officials:

Columbus Mayor:

The Honorable Kristen Brown

Columbus City Council:

Dascal Bunch

Ryan Brand

Frank Jerome

Frank Miller

Tim Shuffett

Kenny Whipker

Jim Lienhoop

Board of Public Works and Safety:

Kristen Brown

Susan Fye

Jayne Farber

Bob Sullivan

Bob Crider



Our Mission:

To Protect and Serve

Our Vision:

To become the premier law enforcement agency in the nation staffed by highly trained, motivated, and professional employees who serve their community with pride.



Our Core Values:

“ **INTEGRITY WITHOUT COMPROMISE:** We are honest and ethical in all we say and do. We honor our word and keep our commitments.

“ **PROFESSIONALISM:** We treat every person with respect, dignity and equity. We are positive, courteous, conscientious and businesslike in all of our actions.

“ **CITIZENS FIRST:** We put the needs of the people of Columbus at the heart of everything we do. We work together to be responsive and exceed our customers' expectations.

“ **PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER:** We care deeply about our people and recognize them as our most valuable asset. We believe in hiring and retaining the best and brightest talent. We work as a team across all boundaries.

“ **OPENNESS:** We are receptive and accessible and our work is transparent.

“ **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We take responsibility for our actions and for delivering results.

“ **FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY:** We get the most from the taxpayer's dollar. We live within our means. We are fiscally very solid.



Executive Summary

Overview from Chief Jason Maddix

It was an incredible year of progress for our department in regards to crime reduction and increased safety in our community.

Most significant in our efforts is an 18% reduction in property crimes over the past two years. Based on violent crime statistics, the Columbus metro area is less than half the national average, ranking the area in the top 10 percentile of safest cities in the country.

Our drug related arrests have increased as we constantly push drug dealers from our community.

It is now safer to travel in Columbus as we ramped up our traffic enforcement efforts to reduce vehicle crashes and remove impaired drivers from our roadways.

We continue to make progress on becoming a nationally accredited police agency through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The process has guided us through an update of our standard operating procedures to exemplify best practices from across the country. Our self-assessment will culminate with an on-site assessment in the summer of 2014 and full accreditation later this year.

With the help of Mayor Brown's office, we established several neighborhood watch programs as part of our community policing efforts. The residents of those neighborhoods are reporting more suspicious activity, which is leading to a reduction in crime.

We accomplished all this while dealing with a significant staffing shortage due to retirements. We hired and trained eight new police officers in 2013, which is triple our normal hiring pace. We are committed to training and equipping our new officers to become the law enforcement professionals that Columbus demands.



Department Overview

In 2013, the Columbus Police Department was staffed with 78 police officers and 8 civilian employees. Most of our officers (58) are assigned to our three patrol shifts. Our Detective Division is staffed with 14 investigators who provide 24/7 coverage. The Columbus Police Department leadership team is Police Chief Jason Maddix, Deputy Chief Todd Harry, Uniform Captain Mike Richardson and Administrative Captain Jon Rohde.



Jason Maddix



Todd Harry



Mike Richardson



Jon Rohde

Budget Overview

Our operating budget in 2013 was \$7.6 million. Personnel related expenses make up most our budget (89%). Our other budget categories for equipment and services remained consistent from 2012. We were able to replace aging video systems in our patrol vehicles and purchase numerous RADAR units for additional traffic enforcement.

Public Relations and Community Policing Efforts

Partnering with the public is the cornerstone of community policing. We take that role seriously and it has significantly contributed to our success. The following are just a few of the services provided by our Public Relations Office this year.

- Five new neighborhoods in Columbus joined the already strong Neighborhood Watch program.
- Implemented a Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving unit consisting of three officers (COPPS).
- Graduated our most diverse class of Public Safety Academy participants.





- Guided dozens of tours of the police department including scouts, school students, and a group of students from Japan.
- Participation at *Homework with an Officer* at Pence has doubled with approximately 15 kids attending the weekly program on a regular basis.
- Participated in multiple children's events such as White River Broadcasting's Easter egg hunt, Kidscommons public safety day, Touch-a-Truck, Busy Bee's preschool, CPD and Me, PAAL and DARE activities, Juneteenth, and 9th Street Park celebration.
- Graduated 20 kids from our Police/Fire Youth Academy.
- Provided numerous presentations on public safety topics such as gun safety, stranger danger, seatbelts, illegal drugs, senior citizen safety, and home security.
- Continued to grow our volunteer program consisting of public safety academy graduates. Our volunteers donated 408 hours of time and issued 905 parking tickets or warnings in the downtown area.
- Conducted three teen driving class and two citizen firearms classes, all of which were filled to capacity.
- Reinstated our Cadet Program with 20 young adults between the ages of 15 and 20 joining the program.
- Graduated over 1,300 students from the DARE program.
- Participated in a disaster preparedness event for the Latino Community by signing up residents for the Everbridge System.
- Reinstated our Chaplain program with three Chaplains providing monthly chapel service and counseling for officers and members of the public.



Mentored local high school students for their senior projects:

- Roarke Moody . mentored by Det. Chris Couch for a teen driving project that trained a dozen high school students on advanced defensive driving techniques and traffic safety.
- Shelby Jackson . mentored by Chief Jason Maddix for her senior project on emergency preparedness at Smith Elementary School.
- Dylan Prather . mentored by Chief Jason Maddix for his senior project on adding an additional K-9 unit at CPD. Dylan successfully raised over \$15,000 for the purchase and training of a new K-9 which will be added to the COPPS unit.





- Hannah Milan . mentored by Chief Jason Maddix for her senior project on impaired driving awareness and party safe+commitments.

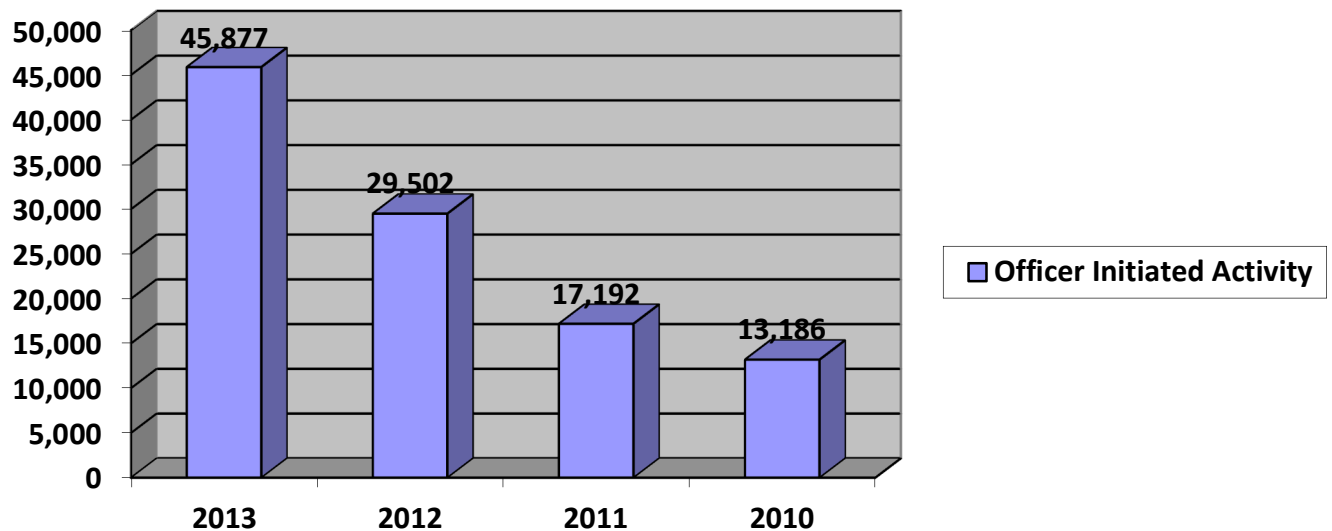
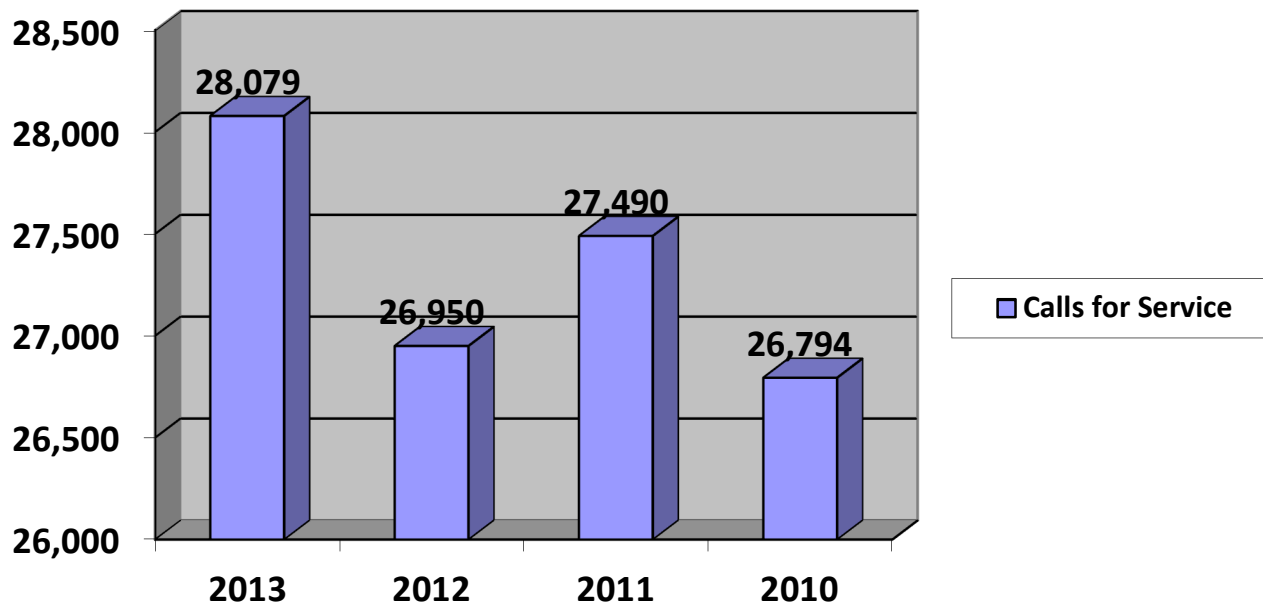


Patrol Division

Calls for Service

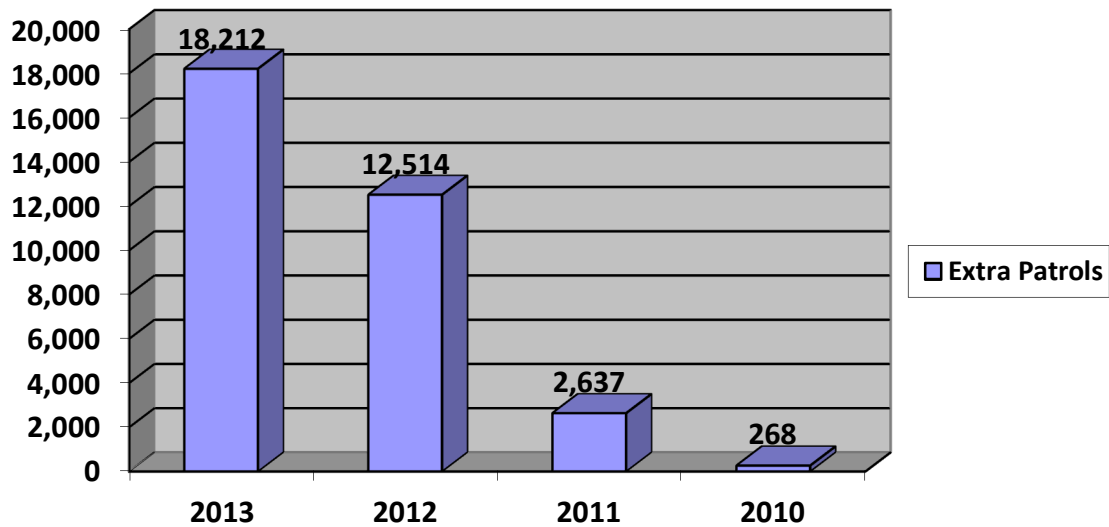
Our officers patrolled over 800,000 miles in 2013 protecting and serving our citizens. Our calls for service increased by approximately 4% and reached their highest mark in the past four years. Despite the increase, our officer-initiated activity far out-paced our calls for service with a 55% increase. Never in the history of our police department have our officers been so active, which is a significant factor in decreasing crime.





Extra Patrols

One specific component of our community policing initiative is our extra patrol program. This effort epitomizes community policing by encouraging community members to report suspicious activity, traffic complaints, drug activity, etc. Each request is entered into a database and efforts are made on all three patrol shifts to respond to the requests. Focused patrols such as these are effective in reducing crime.



Neighborhood Watch and Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving

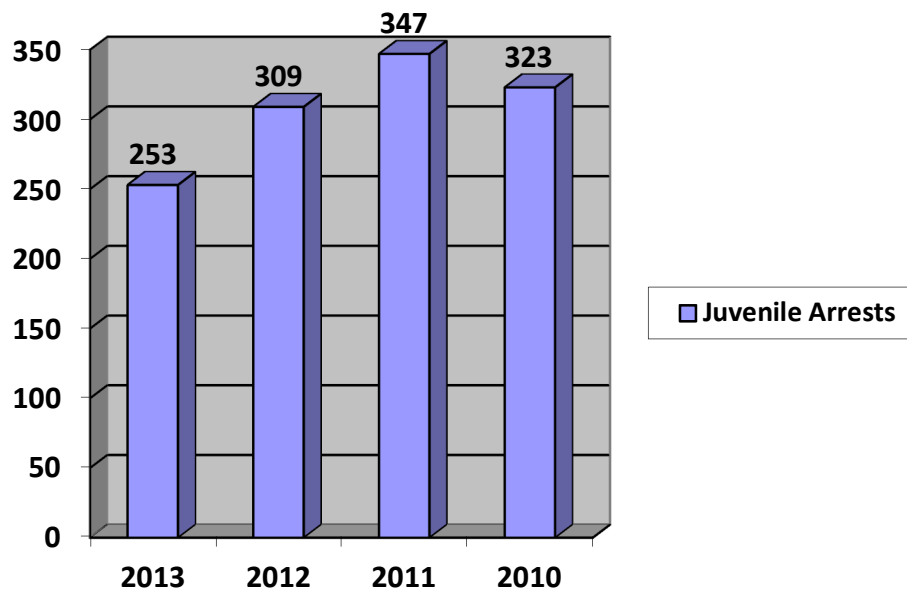
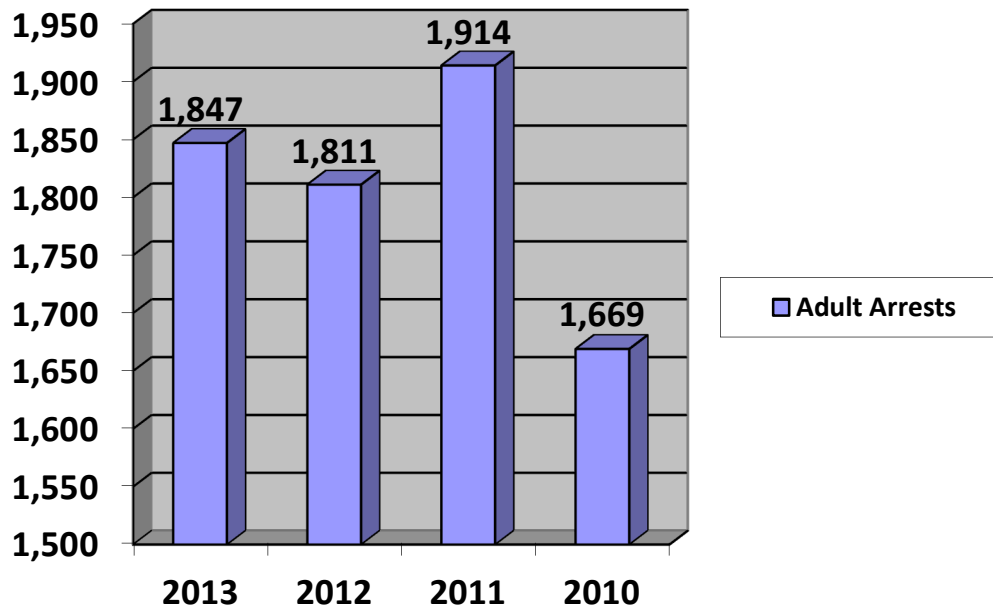
Our department embarked on an aggressive campaign to establish new neighborhood watch groups and work closely with residents to reduce crime and take their neighborhoods back. We assisted five new neighborhood watch programs in 2013 near 9th Street Park, 11th and Washington, Mead Village, Everroad Park West, and Everroad Park East.

We established a community policing unit (COPPS) in June to focus on problem solving and crime reduction in these areas. The results were incredible, with twelve significant drug dealers being arrested before the end of the year.



Criminal and Juvenile Arrests

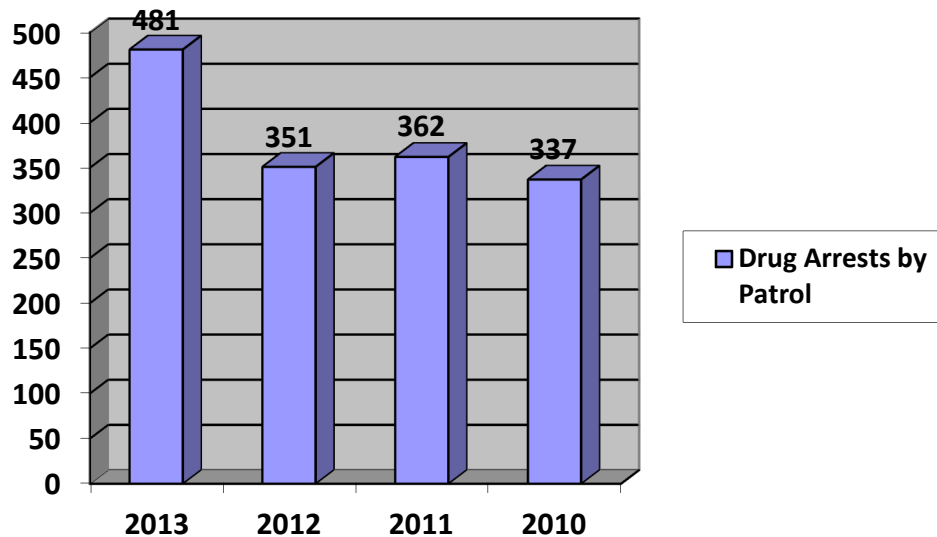
Criminal arrests for adults have remained consistent over the past three years, while juvenile arrests have declined 27%. Our partnerships with Bartholomew County Juvenile Probation, Bartholomew County Youth Services Center, and Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation are factors in the decline. We will have school resource officers (SROs) assigned at each high school beginning in 2014 in an effort to further reduce juvenile crime and increase safety.





Drug Related Arrests (by Patrol Officers)

Our message to drug dealers is clear; you are not welcome in our community. We have teamed up with our neighborhood watch groups to improve reporting of suspicious activity. The 37% increase in drug related arrests in the past year shows the results. Our COPPS unit played a significant role in our progress by partnering with our citizens.



Our patrol officers also made three significant drug seizures that originated from traffic stops for minor violations:

- February . approximately 43 grams of meth and \$3,600 in cash seized from a vehicle after being stopped for speeding.
- October . approximately two pounds of meth and \$32,000 in cash seized from a vehicle when the driver disregarded an automatic signal.
- October . approximately 60 grams of meth and \$3,000 in cash seized from a vehicle when it was stopped for a window tint violation.



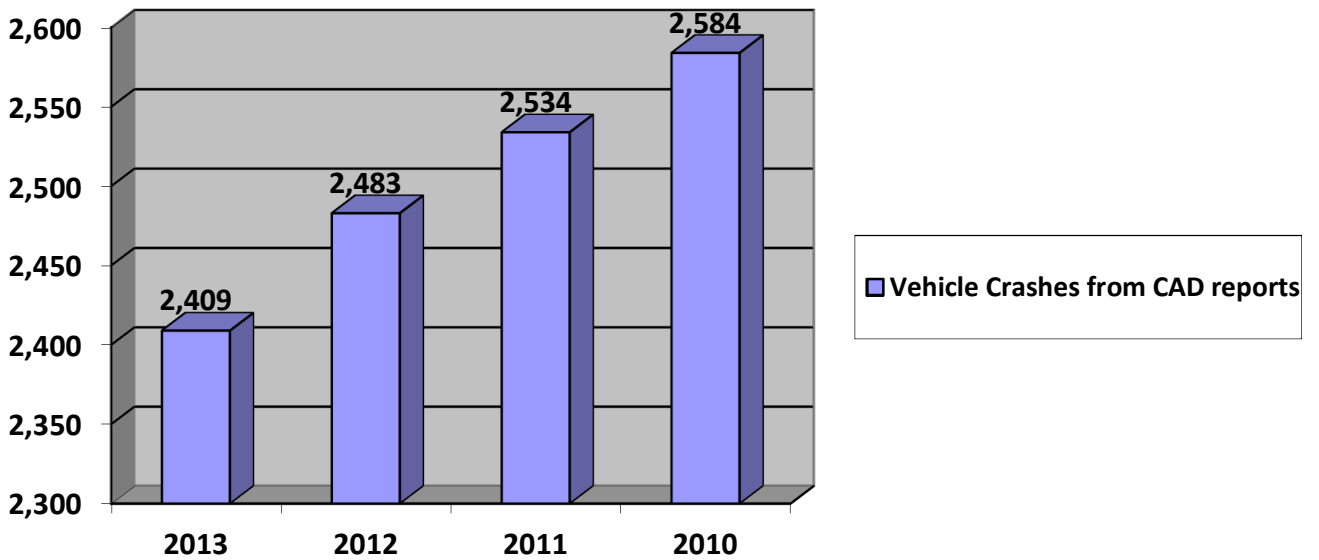
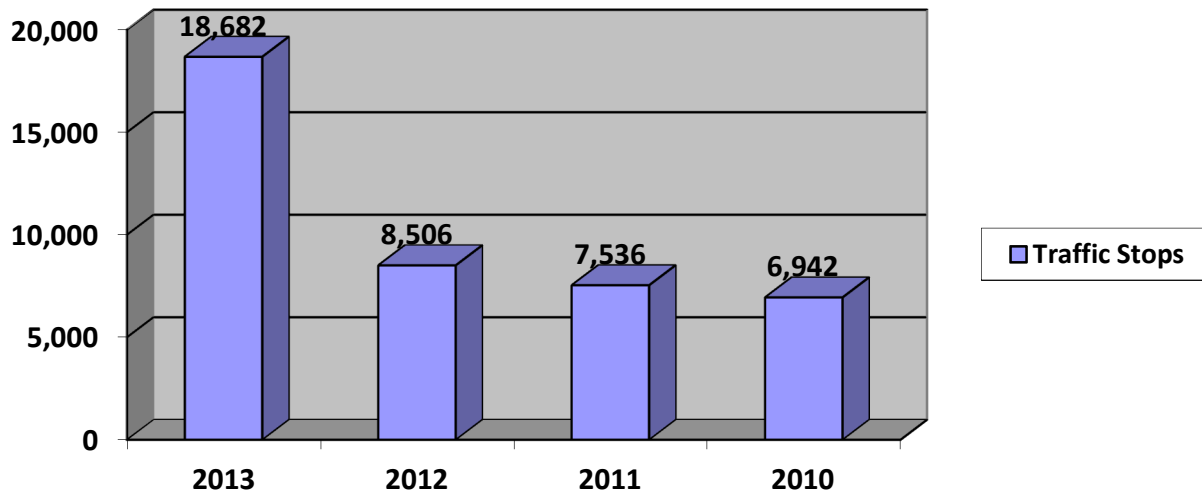
K-9 Units

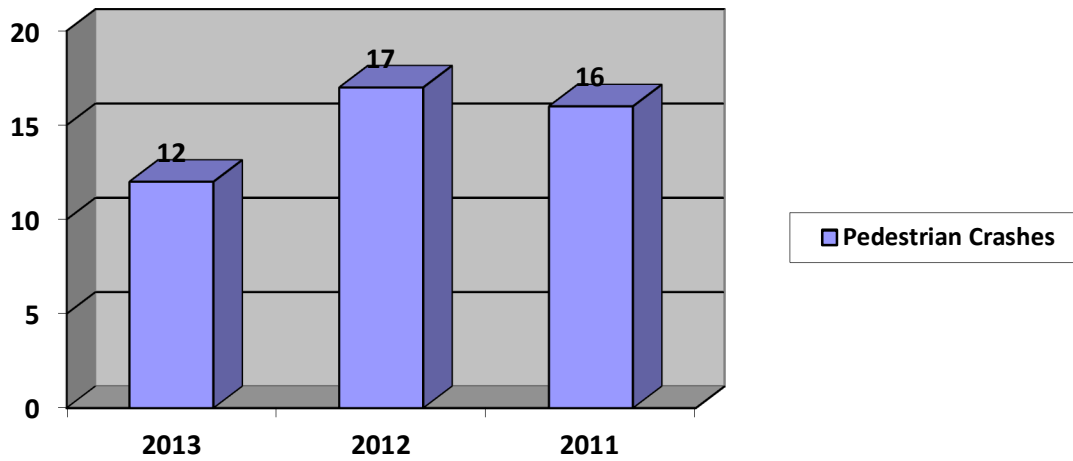
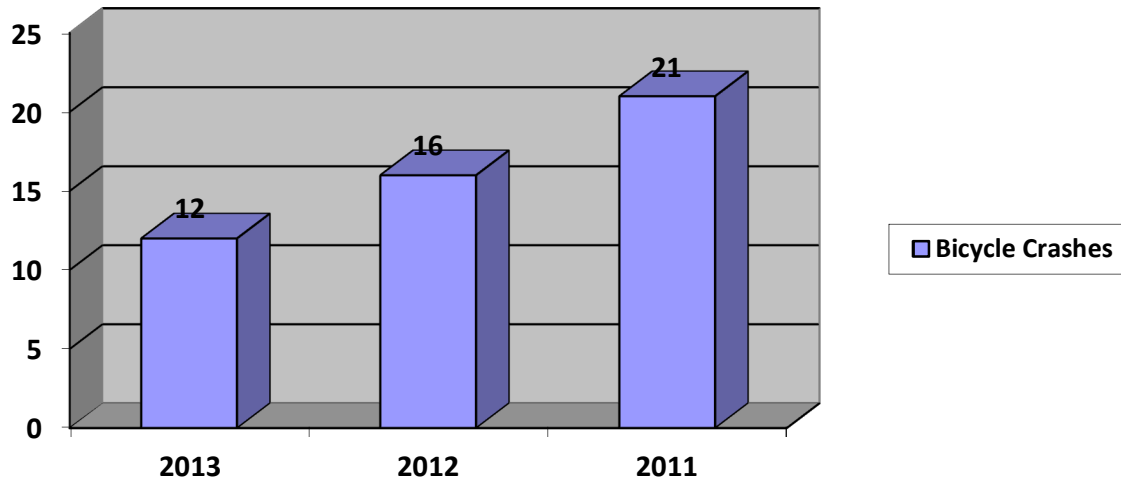
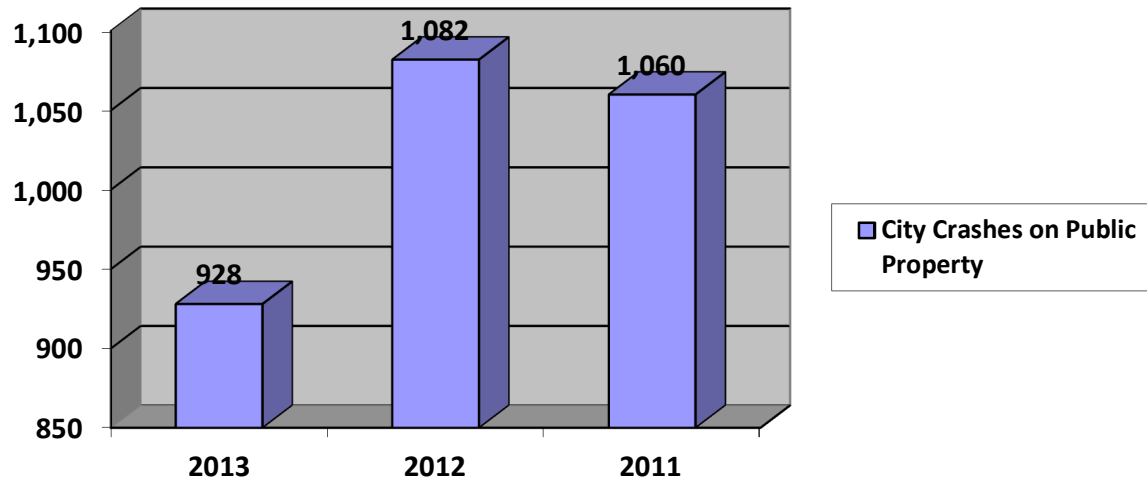
We will be adding a third K-9 unit in 2014, thanks to a successful senior project by Columbus North student Dylan Prather. Our current K-9 units, Officer Branch Schrader and K-9 Argo, along with Officer Chad Lehman and K-9 Rex, continue to increase their activity.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Apprehensions	56	41
Tracks	44	37
Building Searches	41	25
Narcotics Seizures	27	23
Evidence Recovery Search	3	7

Traffic Enforcement and Crash Reduction Efforts

In an effort to increase traffic safety and reduce complaints of dangerous driving, we placed a significant effort on traffic enforcement. Our officers made 10,176 more traffic stops in 2013 than 2012, a 119% increase. This resulted in a 14% reduction in crashes on public property (city streets) and an overall 3% reduction in vehicle crashes reported through our computer aided dispatch (CAD). There were no fatal accidents in the city limits and we also experienced reductions in bike and pedestrian accidents.

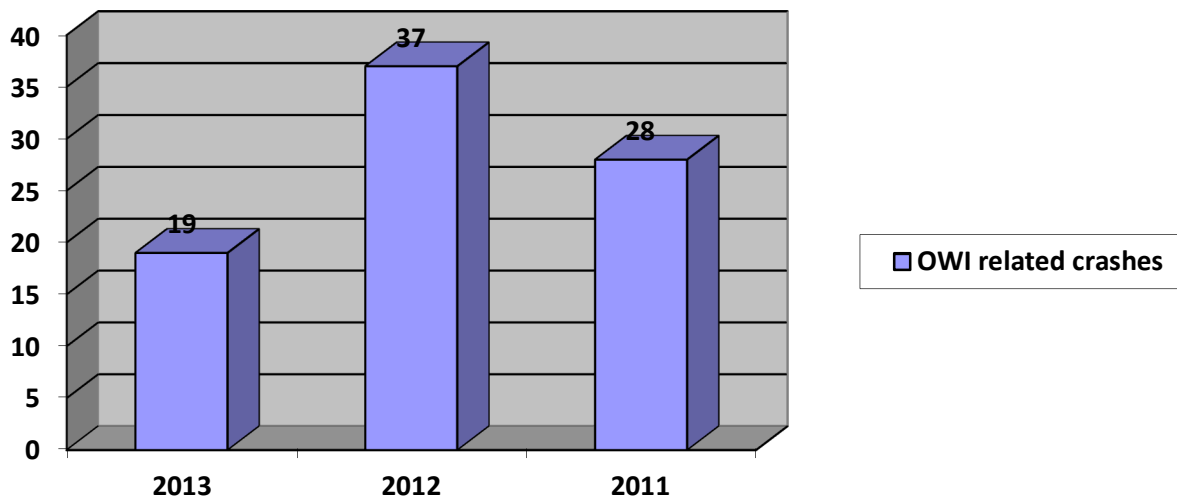
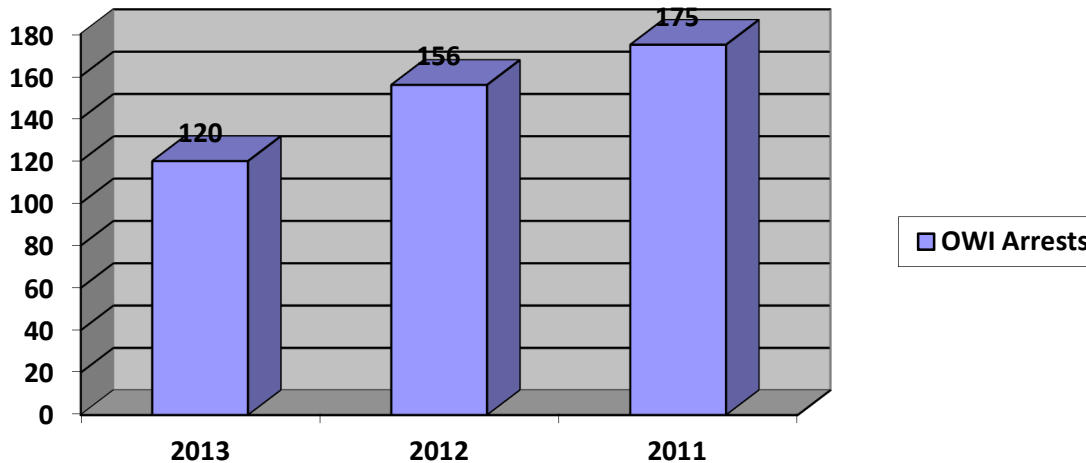






Impaired Driving Enforcement

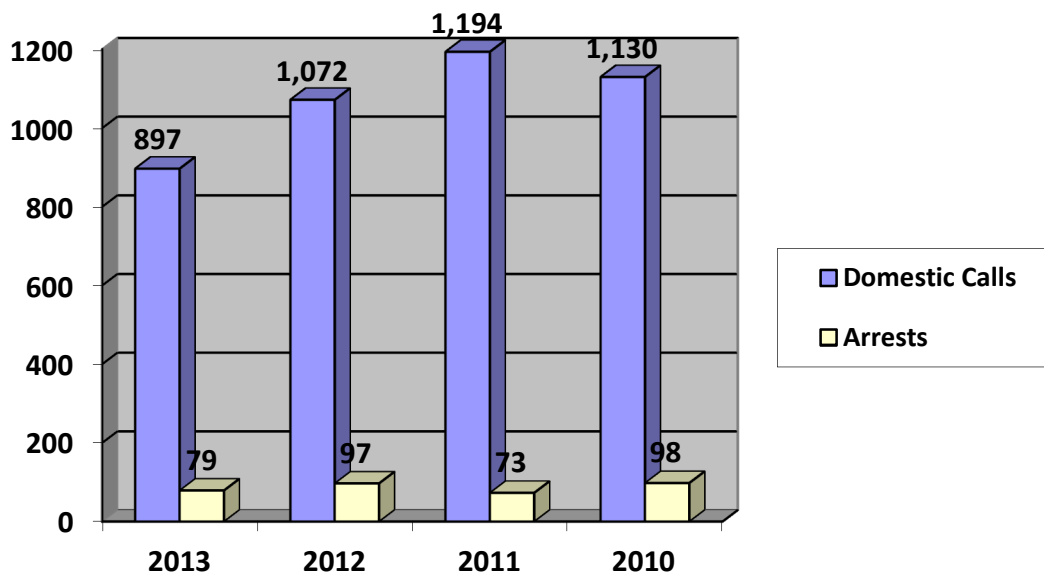
Despite our enormous increase in traffic enforcement, our arrests for operating while intoxicated have decreased by 31% in the past two years. Additionally, OWI related crashes declined by 48% in 2013. These statistics prove that our enforcement efforts are making the streets safer. The word is out .if you drink and drive in Columbus, you will be arrested. The Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office screens our OWI arrests on a daily basis to ensure a timely filing of criminal charges. Our goal is to rid the streets of intoxicated drivers with even more enforcement in 2014.





Domestic Violence

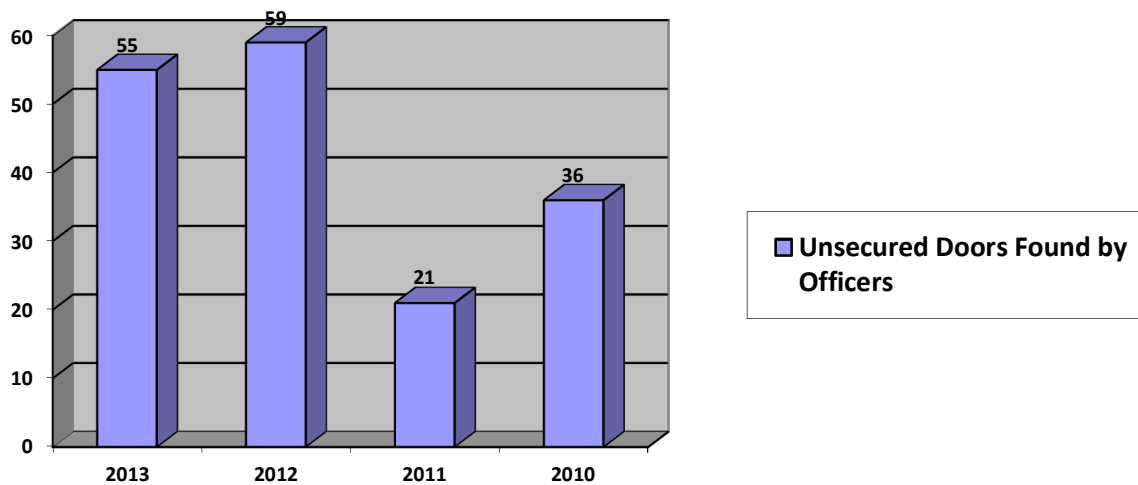
Our calls for domestic violence were down considerable in 2013 by 16%, with a 24% drop over the past two years. Unfortunately, domestic violence continues to plague our community and cuts across all socio-economic levels. We partner with Turning Point and the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office to attack the problem. Our officers train throughout the year on how to safely and effectively investigate domestic related crimes. Our patrol officers complete the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) on all domestic violence arrests. The ODARA assists our prosecutors, judges and probation officers with decision making regarding bond amounts, protective orders, and sentencing options.





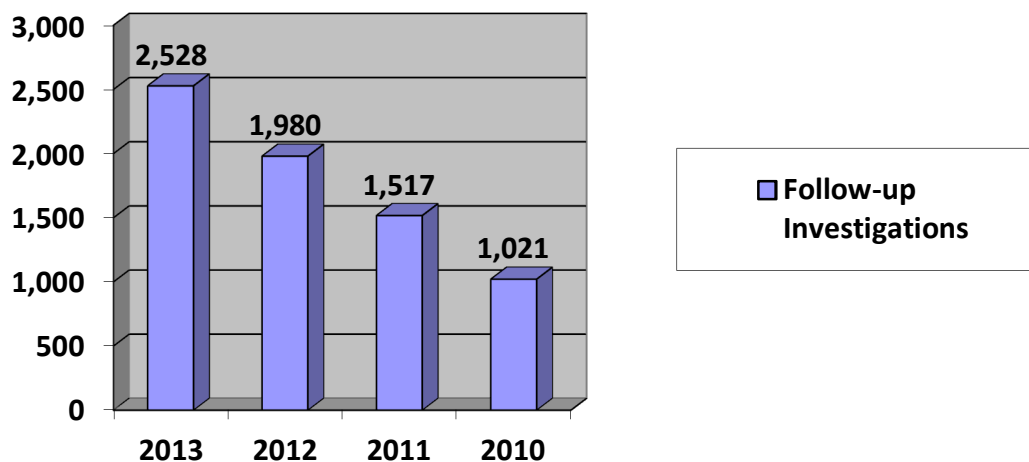
Finding Open/Unlocked Doors

Patrolling with a purpose in high crime areas or while conducting extra patrols has led to an increase in our third shift officers locating open or unsecured doors. Properly securing a business or home reduces the chance of a burglary occurring.



Follow-up Investigations

Our patrol officers are empowered to conduct follow-up investigations in an effort to solve crime instead of just taking reports. Follow-up may include obtaining additional statements, photographs, collecting evidence, or conducting interviews. The increase in follow-up investigations translates into stronger cases for prosecution.





Criminal Investigations

Overview

The Criminal Investigations Division consists of detectives who investigate all types of crimes and narcotics detectives who specialize in investigating drug crimes. In 2013, the Criminal Investigations Division opened 1,473 cases, a 13.7% increase from 2012.

One of the division goals in 2013 was to increase efficiency. The division manager, Lieutenant Mike Ward, was able to dramatically improve the process in which cases are reviewed and assigned. Cases are now assigned within a few hours after the initial report is taken. This system of case review ensures that cases are assigned and classified in a timely manner.

A second efficiency was created with the implementation of case solvability software. The solvability software allows investigators to evaluate each case individually by balancing investigative efforts with the likelihood that the investigation will result in a criminal prosecution. This allows investigators to prioritize their caseloads in a more efficient manner.



The solvability software also led to an increase in customer service. In order to maintain better communication with victims, case status letters are now being sent. These letters inform victims of the status of their case after our solvability software evaluates the circumstances and it is reviewed by a supervisor.

Prescription Drug Diversion

In 2012, the Columbus Police Department established the position of diversion investigator, which focuses on prescription medication being used in an illegal manner. Detective Chris Couch was assigned this role and is assigned every report concerning a theft of medication.



In 2013, Detective Couch was assigned 93 diversion cases. Of those 93 cases, 31 victims refused to cooperate with the investigation. Of the remaining 62 cooperating victims, 31 cases had no possible leads to follow and were closed out. Of the 31 workable cases, 17 felony charges were recommended to the prosecutor's office, a 54.5% increase from 2012.

<u>Category</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Theft of Medication Reports	93	73	127
Uncooperative Victims	31	34	Unknown
Cooperating Victims	62	39	Unknown
Diversion Cases Filed	17	11	N/A

In addition to investigating diversion related cases, Detective Couch meets with a diversion network and provides education to the healthcare community in pharmaceutical drug crime trends, forensic drug screen testing, robbery mitigation strategies, and covert internal investigations. As a result of his efforts, there were no pharmacy robberies in the city in 2013.

Repeat Offenders

In 2012, Detective Sergeant Tom Foust was assigned as the division's repeat offender investigator, which is a position that focuses on combating crime by identifying and tracking offenders who have committed numerous criminal acts, continue to commit criminal acts after being released from incarceration, or chronically have multiple warrants issued.

In 2013, 68 individuals in our community were identified as repeat offenders. Of these 68 offenders, 23 were chronically wanted by warrant and 45 were considered offenders that had committed numerous crimes in the past and were likely to re-offend. As shown below, a majority of these offenders were arrested.



	<u>Chronically Wanted by Warrant</u>	<u>Repeat Offenders</u>
Number Identified	23	45
Number Arrested	17	37
Percentage Arrested	74%	82%

Examples of the types of people/crimes Sgt. Foust investigated in 2013 include:

- A rash of thefts from vehicles where a suspect was identified and linked to 12 break-ins and thefts.
- A rash of nearly 30 vandalisms where three suspects were identified.
- Another rash of nearly 20 vandalisms where two suspects were identified.
- Numerous thefts of catalytic convertors where a suspect was identified and linked to 12 thefts.
- An investigation into a self-proclaimed Columbus home grown gang who were involved in both personal and property crime. All the members were identified and arrested, resulting in a disruption of their organizational ability.

Property Crimes

Since 2012, one of the department's primary goals has been reducing property crime. In 2012 our community had a 75.8% higher property crime rate than the national average.

Property Crime	2013	2012
National Crime Rate/1,000 people	Not available	28.59
Columbus Crime Rate/1,000 people	48.16	50.27
Percent Higher than national average	Not available	75.8%



Based on efforts mentioned throughout this report, property crime has been reduced by 18% over the past three years.

Crime	2013	2012	2011
Burglary	241	262	305
Theft (Larceny)	1,751	1,773	2,077
Vehicle Theft	130	180	209
Totals	2,122	2,215	2,591

Violent Crimes

Despite a higher than acceptable property crime rate, we have been able to maintain a community that is relatively safe from violent crime, which is 48% lower than the national average.

Violent Crime	2013	2012
National Crime Rate/1,000 people	Unknown	3.87
Columbus Crime Rate/1,000 people	1.84	1.86
Percent Lower than national average	Unknown	48%



Although we had two murders in 2013, our violent crime has decreased by 6.2% from 2011 to 2013. We did not experience any bank or pharmacy robberies in 2013.

Crime	2013	2012	2011
Murder	2	0	1
Rape	16	12	7
Robbery	18	22	21
Aggravated Assault	45	48	57
Totals	81	82	86

Narcotics Investigations

In 2013, the narcotics division opened 199 cases. We focused our efforts on methamphetamine and heroin since these drugs have the most negative impact on our residents.

Over the past year, heroin infiltrated our community. We have cracked down on it and our arrest rate reflects it. The total number of dealing heroin cases increased from 4 to 24 in one year. Thanks to tips from the community, we were able to arrest two main area suppliers of heroin. Currently, the heroin trend within the community has showed significant signs of slowing down.

Year after year our numbers pertaining to methamphetamine related cases continue to rise. Local meth making seems to be decreasing because we have seen less methamphetamine laboratories. However, imported methamphetamine, usually in the crystal form is increasing.





Although powder meth and crystal meth produce the same effects for the user, the crystal form is more popular with users and has the reputation of being more pure. Several investigations during 2013 yielded large (kilogram) amounts that were packaged and bound for our community.

Through intelligence gathered, we know that large amounts of imported methamphetamine make it into our community on a regular basis.

Case Type	2013	2012	2011	2010
Methamphetamine (dealing or labs)	82	55	39	43
Dealing Controlled Substance	12	28	38	33
Dealing Marijuana	5	25	49	36
Dealing Cocaine	27	18	10	47
Dealing Heroin	24	4	1	2
Other (warrant service, theft, etc.	49	35	36	35
Total Cases	199	165	173	196

In addition, the downtown area of Columbus gained a lot of attention from the public throughout the year as they were experiencing a large amount of criminal activity. We focused our efforts in this area, and 141 of our investigations took place and led to arrests in the downtown Columbus area.

According to Indiana State Police statistics, 43 methamphetamine labs were seized in Bartholomew County in 2013, placing us in the top ten counties in the state. Additionally, since 2001, Bartholomew County has led the state with 635 total labs seized. These numbers tell the story on the problem we are facing and our efforts to combat it.



Detective Cases

- Narcotics Detectives seizure of 2 ½ pounds of crystal methamphetamine and cocaine.
- Narcotics Detectives joint investigation with the Indiana State Police, FBI, and Jackson County Sheriff's Office regarding the distribution of large amounts of methamphetamine and cocaine, where suspects of a cartel originated out of Mexico have been identified and will be federally prosecuted.
- Detectives investigated a homicide at Caddies Pub, where the suspect was arrested and is currently awaiting trial.
- Detectives assisted the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department in the investigation of a quadruple homicide in Waynesville. The investigation resulted in the arrest of the suspect, who is awaiting trial.
- Both Detectives and Narcotics Detectives investigated a counterfeit money making operation, where three people were arrested and are awaiting trial.
- Detectives investigated a stabbing at 9th Street Park, where the suspects were identified.
- Detectives, along with the FAA, investigated an airplane crash in Broadmoor addition.
- Detectives investigated a homicide at Riverstone Apartments, where the suspect was arrested in Texas and is currently awaiting trial.
- Detectives investigated an attempted armed robbery on Sims Court, where three individuals sustained gunshot wounds that were non-life threatening. This incident is still being investigated.





Emergency and Disaster Preparedness

Active Shooter Training

Our training coordinator, Sgt. Curt Beverage, was certified as an instructor in Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate, or ALICE. This program provides a response to active shooter situations. Sgt. Beverage conducted training at four businesses in Columbus as well as training our own officers in an annual refresher course.



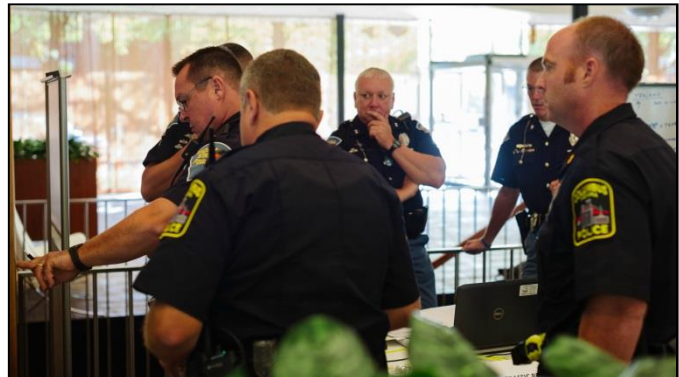
Muscatatuck Urban Training Center

CPD officers participated in a mock disaster drill at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center in September. The drill focused on emergency response for a tornado. Our officers participated in building searches, rescue operations, and security functions.

Incident Command System (ICS)

Our department practiced using the Incident Command System at four planned events in 2013;

SALUTE concert, Q-mix fireworks, Mill Race Marathon, and Ethnic Expo. The system, which is recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), consists of an established command post and various personnel filling roles such as incident commander, logistics commander, safety officer, etc. This was a collaborative effort with



the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department, Columbus Fire Department, and Bartholomew County Emergency Management. By practicing these concepts, we are better prepared to respond and manage actual emergencies.



Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and Disaster Drills

Our officers and specialty teams participated in numerous table-top drills throughout the year with multiple agencies through the Flood Response and Evacuation Plan (FREP). We also participated in an active-shooter table-top drill with officials at the campuses of IUPUC and Ivy Tech.

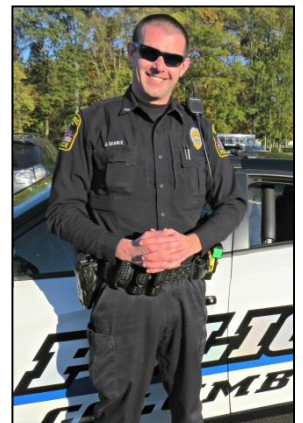
Bartholomew County Water Rescue and Recovery (BCWRR)

The BCWRR team was utilized numerous times throughout the year, particularly during the late December flooding. CPD now has three certified divers on the team and each has been certified for ice diving.

Police Visibility Program

Once again our Police Visibility Program (take-home cars) proved its worth when we had to call-in extra resources during the plane crash in June, severe storms in November, and flooding in December. Additionally, our specialty teams (SWAT, BCWRR, Negotiators, Detectives, etc.) are constantly called-in from off-duty status at a moment's notice. This program directly contributes to the safety of our city.

Off-duty officers are required to monitor their radios and respond to calls or assist motorists when appropriate. Officers are restricted on the amount of gas provided by the city and are not allowed to drive the vehicles outside of the county unless on official business. The omnipresence created by off-duty police officers in their assigned cars has a measurable impact:





Off-Duty Activity

Activity Type	2013	2012
Complaints/Reports	104	123
Alarms	67	77
Accidents	27	20
Accident Assists	199	235
Criminal Arrests	18	16
Criminal Arrest Assists	65	75
Traffic Tickets	56	61
Traffic Warnings (written)	11	6
Traffic Warnings (verbal)	275	437
Motorists Assists	576	742
Back-up another officer	206	116

Other Accomplishments

- Hosted the Police Executive Leadership Academy . 160 hours of management training for public safety personnel. Management from both CPD and CFD attended.
- Two CPD detectives attended the National Fire Academy and became certified as arson investigators. We formed a fire investigation team with CFD, BCSO, and County Fire for a more comprehensive approach to fire investigations.
- Implemented performance based management principles, performance evaluations, and a career path development program for our employees.
- Deployed 56 AEDs in all our patrol cars in February and March. Two lives were saved as a result.
- Partnered with the Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) to purchase multiple RADAR units for our patrol cars.



- Seven officers, including the Chief, attended the Diversity Circles program at IUPUC. This class is now part of CPD's career path development program.
- Updated our computer forensics capabilities with new hardware and software.



2014 Goals and Objectives

Overview

- Push property crimes below 2,000 incidents through pro-active policing, public education, tracking repeat offenders, leveraging technology, and partnering with local businesses.
- Deploy camera surveillance systems in four areas; downtown, 11th and Washington, 9th Street Park, and Morningside Park.
- Continue to increase drug enforcement by patrol officers and narcotics detectives.
- Reduce vehicle crashes by 5% through increased traffic enforcement and partnerships with the city engineer's office and the Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- Involve more merit rank officers in disaster planning and incident command events.
- Continue advancement with CALEA process, reaching full accreditation this fall.

